eral application to regulate the production, transportation, storage, safety, use or pricing of methane as a transportation fuel or vehicles which use methane as a transportation fuel.

(Pub. L. 96-512, §11, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2833.)

CHAPTER 65—LIABILITY RISK RETENTION

Sec. 3901.

Definitions.

3902.

Risk retention groups.

- (a) Exemptions from State laws, rules, regulations, or orders.
- (b) Scope of exemptions.
- (c) Licensing of agents or brokers for risk retention groups.
- (d) Documents for submission to State insurance commissioners.
- (e) Power of courts to enjoin conduct.
- (f) State powers to enforce State laws.
- (g) States' authority to sue.
- (h) State authority to regulate or prohibit ownership interests in risk retention groups.

3903.

Purchasing groups.

- (a) Exemptions from State laws, rules, regulations, or orders.
- (b) Scope of exemptions.
- (c) Licensing of agents or brokers for purchasing groups.
- (d) Notice to State insurance commissioners of intent to do business.
- (e) Designation of agent for service of documents and process.
- (f) Purchases of insurance through licensed agents or brokers acting pursuant to surplus lines laws.
- (g) State powers to enforce State laws.
- (h) States' authority to sue.

3904.

- Securities laws.

 (a) Ownership interest of members in risk retention groups.
 - (b) Investment companies.
 - (c) State blue sky laws.

3905.

Clarification concerning permissible State authority.

- (a) No exemption from State motor vehicle no-fault and motor vehicle financial responsibility laws.
- (b) Applicability of exemptions.
- (c) Prohibited insurance policy coverage.
- (d) State authority to specify acceptable means of demonstrating financial responsibility.

3906. Injunctive orders issued by United States district courts.

§ 3901. Definitions

- (a) As used in this chapter—
- (1) "insurance" means primary insurance, excess insurance, reinsurance, surplus lines insurance, and any other arrangement for shifting and distributing risk which is determined to be insurance under applicable State or Federal law;
 - (2) "liability"—
 - (A) means legal liability for damages (including costs of defense, legal costs and fees, and other claims expenses) because of injuries to other persons, damage to their property, or other damage or loss to such other persons resulting from or arising out of—
 - (i) any business (whether profit or nonprofit), trade, product, services (including professional services), premises, or operations, or

- (ii) any activity of any State or local government, or any agency or political subdivision thereof; and
- (B) does not include personal risk liability and an employer's liability with respect to its employees other than legal liability under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (45 U.S.C. 51 et seq.);
- (3) "personal risk liability" means liability for damages because of injury to any person, damage to property, or other loss or damage resulting from any personal, familial, or household responsibilities or activities, rather than from responsibilities or activities referred to in paragraphs (2)(A) and (2)(B);
- (4) "risk retention group" means any corporation or other limited liability association—
 - (A) whose primary activity consists of assuming, and spreading all, or any portion, of the liability exposure of its group members;
 - (B) which is organized for the primary purpose of conducting the activity described under subparagraph (A);

(C) which-

- (i) is chartered or licensed as a liability insurance company under the laws of a State and authorized to engage in the business of insurance under the laws of such State; or
- (ii) before January 1, 1985, was chartered or licensed and authorized to engage in the business of insurance under the laws of Bermuda or the Cayman Islands and, before such date, had certified to the insurance commissioner of at least one State that it satisfied the capitalization requirements of such State, except that any such group shall be considered to be a risk retention group only if it has been engaged in business continuously since such date and only for the purpose of continuing to provide insurance to cover product liability or completed operations liability (as such terms were defined in this section before October 27, 1986);
- (D) which does not exclude any person from membership in the group solely to provide for members of such a group a competitive advantage over such a person;
 - (E) which-
 - (i) has as its owners only persons who comprise the membership of the risk retention group and who are provided insurance by such group; or
 - (ii) has as its sole owner an organization which has as—
 - (I) its members only persons who comprise the membership of the risk retention group; and
 - (II) its owners only persons who comprise the membership of the risk retention group and who are provided insurance by such group;
- (F) whose members are engaged in businesses or activities similar or related with respect to the liability to which such members are exposed by virtue of any related, similar, or common business, trade, product, services, premises, or operations;